

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 434

Session of  
1979

INTRODUCED BY GALLEN, MARCH 5, 1979

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON GAME AND FISHERIES, MARCH 5, 1979

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1225, No.316), entitled  
2 "An act concerning game and other wild birds and wild  
3 animals; and amending, revising, consolidating, and changing  
4 the law relating thereto," requiring a certificate of  
5 competency for certain hunters.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Section 301.1, act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1225,  
9 No.316), known as "The Game Law, added March 28, 1968 (P.L.75,  
10 No.30), is amended to read:

11 Section 301.1. [Licenses for Persons Under Sixteen]  
12 Certificate of Competency.--(a) No hunting license shall be  
13 issued to any person [under the age of sixteen years] unless he  
14 presents to the person authorized to issue such license either  
15 (i) evidence that he has held a hunting license issued by the  
16 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or another state in a prior year,  
17 or (ii) a certificate of competency as provided in this section,  
18 or (iii) a sworn affidavit signed by the applicant stating that  
19 he has held a hunting license issued by the Commonwealth or  
20 another state in a prior year but is unable to produce evidence

1 of holding such license.

2 (b) The commission shall provide for a course of instruction  
3 in the safe handling of firearms and bows and arrows such as  
4 approved by the National Rifle Association of America, and for  
5 this purpose may cooperate with any reputable association or  
6 organization having as one of its objectives the promotion of  
7 safety in the handling of firearms, and bows and arrows.

8 (c) The commission may designate any person found by it to  
9 be competent to give instruction in the handling of firearms,  
10 and bows and arrows [to persons under the age of sixteen years].  
11 A person so appointed shall give such course of instruction, and  
12 upon the successful completion thereof shall issue to the person  
13 instructed a certificate of competency in the safe handling of  
14 firearms and bows and arrows. No charge shall be made for such  
15 course of instruction, except for materials or ammunition  
16 consumed.

17 (d) The commission shall furnish information on the  
18 requirements of the hunter safety education program as provided  
19 herein, said information to be distributed free of charge to  
20 applicants for hunting licenses by the persons appointed and  
21 authorized to issue such licenses.

22 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.